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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: <u>February 11, 2004</u>	
Signed: <u>Michelle Chan</u> Michelle Chan	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.	:	10/606,203	Confirmation No.:	4361
Applicant	:	Wesley B. Dong		
Filed	:	June 25, 2003		
TC/A.U.	:			
Examiner	:			
Docket No.	:	100/16101		
Customer No.	:	021569		
Title	:	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR MINIMIZING EVAPORATION OF SAMPLE MATERIALS		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The references cited on the attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each reference is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all possible relevant information.

Applicants believe that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted within three months of the filing date or prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit

Appl. No. 10/606,203
Wesley B. Dong

Account No. 03-0177. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the above-noted deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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(Modified) PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/02. OMB 0651-0031

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
Sheet	of	Application Number	10/606,203
		Filing Date	June 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Wesley B. Dong
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number	100/16101

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appeal
		Number - Kind Code (if known)			
AA	US-4,657,867		04-14-1987	Guhl et al.	
AB	US-5,789,251		08-04-1998	Astle	
AC	US-5,942,443		08-24-1999	Parce et al.	
AD	US-6,074,614		06-13-2000	Hafeman et al.	
AE	US-6,132,685		10-17-2000	Kercso et al.	
AF					
AG					
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AI					
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AK					
AL					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code - Number - Kind Code (if known)			
AM	WO-02/072423		09/19/2002	Biomicro	
AN	WO-02/087763		11/07/2002	Medical Research C	
AO					

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T
	AP				
	AQ				
	AR				
	AS				
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.